



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

CALIFORNIA DIVISION

980 Ninth Street, Suite 400

Sacramento, CA. 95814-2724

June 19, 2003

IN REPLY REFER TO

HDA-CA

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Mr. Jeff Morales, Director
California Department of Transportation
1120 N Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Attention: Federal Resources Office, Room 3500
For Kris Balaji, Federal Programming

Dear Mr. Morales:

SUBJECT: SANDAG 2002/03-2004/05 FTIP/FSTIP AMENDMENT NO. 8

We have completed our review of Amendment No. 8 to the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) 2002/03-2006/07 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) that was submitted by your letter dated May 7, 2003. The SANDAG Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 2003-34 on April 18, 2003, approving these FTIP modifications and reaffirming the conformity of the transportation improvement program with the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality. As described in the enclosures to your letter, this amendment proposes the following changes to the 2002/03-2004/05 FSTIP: reduce planned obligations in FY 2002/03 for the preliminary engineering (PE) phase of the North and South segments of the I-15 managed lanes project; increases planned obligations for PE on these projects in 2003/04; and increases the planned obligations in FY 2003/04 for the construction and right-of-way phases of the Middle segment of the I-15 managed lanes project.

We accept these modifications to the 2002/03-2004/05 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP) for the SANDAG region in accordance with the Federal statewide and metropolitan transportation planning regulations codified in 23 CFR Part 450. We find that SANDAG's FTIP, including Amendment No. 8, was developed through a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process in accord with the metropolitan transportation planning provisions of 23 USC §134 and 49 USC Chapter 53. Based on our review, we have determined that SANDAG's 2002/03-2006/07 FTIP, including the modifications adopted as part of Amendment No. 8, conforms to the applicable SIP in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93 and in accordance with the January 2, 2002, *Revised Guidance for Implementing the March 1999 Circuit Court Decision Affecting Transportation Conformity*, and the Environmental Protection Agency's May 14, 1999, guidance *Conformity Guidance on Implementation of March 2, 1999 Conformity Court Decision*. These planning and conformity findings have been coordinated with the regional offices of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Federal Transit Administration.

This letter constitutes the joint Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration approval for inclusion of the modified project listings proposed by SANDAG Amendment No. 8 into California's 2002/03-2004/05 FSTIP. The FHWA is providing this approval in accordance with the procedures outlined in the joint FHWA/FTA Memorandum of Understanding on single mode TIP Amendments dated March 8, 1996.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gary N. Hamby".

For

Gary N. Hamby

Division Administrator

E-Mail:

EPA Region IX, Karina O'Connor (OConnor.karina@epa.gov)

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c:

SANDAG FTIP Binder w/ Caltrans letter

WEH/weh